Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended): In a communication system receiver, a method of adjusting an outer loop threshold (OLT) for power control comprising:

obtaining a frame quality indicator; and

obtaining a channel quality metric Eb/Nt;

wherein <u>when</u> the frame quality indicator is equal to a logic zero,

obtaining an average Eb/Nt (avgEbNt); and

using Eb/Nt and avgEbNt to calculate a stepsize used to increase the OLT; wherein the stepsize is calculated using

upDelta = baseUpDelta * (Eb/Nt) / avgEbNt and wherein baseUpDelta is a predetermined scaling factor.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the OLT is increased using the equation OLT(n) = OLT(n-1) X upDelta.

4. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the channel quality metric Eb/Nt is calculated using the equation $Eb/Nt = (\sum_{i=1}^{N} sgn(Out(i)) \cdot In(i))^2 / (\sum_{i=1}^{N} In(i)^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^{N} sgn(Out(i)) \cdot In(i))^2)$.

5. – 9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended): In a communication system receiver having a target frame error rate (tFER), a method of adjusting an outer loop threshold (OLT) for power control comprising:

obtaining a frame quality indicator;

wheren when the frame quality indicator is not equal to a logic zero and the frame quality indicator is not equal to a logic one for an adaptively determined amount of consecutive frames, adjusting the OLT according to a comparison of a fadeDepth(i) and a fadeDepth(i-1).

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 10 wherein the OLT is adjusted using the equation OLT(i)= OLT(i-1) [[·]] * floatDelta, when fadeDepth(i) > fadeDepth(i-1); wherein floatDelta is a predefined constant.

12. (previously presented): The method of claim 10 wherein the OLT is adjusted using the equation OLT(i) = OLT(i-1) / floatDelta, when fadeDepth(i) < fadeDepth(i-1); wherein floatDelta is a predefined constant.